LEED BD+C: Homes | v3 - LEED 2008

Nontoxic pest control

SSc5 | Possible 2 points

Glossary

Intent

Design home features to minimize the need for poisons for control of insects, rodents, and other pests.

Requirements

Prerequisites

None.

Credits

5 **Pest control alternatives** (½ point each, maximum 2 points). Implement one or more of the measures below. All physical actions (for pest management practices) must be noted on construction plans.

a) Keep all wood (i.e., siding, trim, structure) at least 12 inches above soil (code typically requires 8 inches).

b) Seal all external cracks, joints, penetrations, edges, and entry points with caulking. Where openings cannot be caulked or sealed, install rodent and corrosion-proof screens (e.g., copper or stainless steel mesh). Protect exposed foundation insulation with moisture-resistant, pest-proof cover (e.g., fiber cement board, galvanized insect screen).

c) Include no wood-to-concrete connections or separate any exterior wood-to-concrete connections (e.g., at posts, deck supports, stair stringers) with metal or plastic fasteners or dividers.

d) Install landscaping such that all parts of mature plants will be at least 24 inches from the home.

e) In areas marked “moderate to heavy” through “very heavy” on the termite infestation probability map (**Figure 1**), implement one or more of the following measures (½ point each):

1. Treat all cellulosic material (e.g., wood framing) with a borate product to a minimum of 3 feet above the foundation.
2. Install a sand or diatomaceous earth barrier.
3. Install a steel mesh barrier termite control system.
4. Install nontoxic termite bait system.
5. Use noncellulosic (i.e., not wood or straw) wall structure.
6. Use solid concrete foundation walls or masonry wall with top course of solid block bond beam or concrete-filled block.

Figure 1. Termite Infestation Probability Map

FIGURE R301.2(6)
TERMITE INFESTATION PROBABILITY MAP